

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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FOL TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO BONN USBERLIN BREMEN DUSSELDORF
FRANKFURT MUNICH STUTTGART FROM HAMBURG DTD 23 FEB 1976

QUOTE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, GW

SUBJECT: LOWER SAXONY AND THE POLISH AGREEMENTS

REF: BONN 2951

1. MINISTER-PRESIDENT ERNS ALBRECHT AHAS NOT AS YET
DECIDED HOW LOWER SAXONY WILL VOTE ON THE RATIFICATION OF
THE POLISH AGREEMENTS IN THE BUNDESRAT. SOURCES CLOSE TO
ALBRECHT INFORMED US THAT HE IS PLAYING FOR TIME, HOPING
THAT THE POLISH GOVERNMENT WILL OFFER AN ADDENDUM TO THE
PROTOCOL SIGNED IN OCTOBER 1975 WHICH WILL UNEQUIVOCALLY
BID THE POLISH GOVERNMENT TO AN AGREEMENT PERMITTING THE
EMIGRATION OF ALL ETHNIC GERMANS IN POLAND. ALBRECHT,
ACCORDING TO WELL INFORMED CDU SOURCES HERE, PERSONALLY
AGREES WITH THOSE 15 MEMBERS OF THE CDU/CSU FRACTION IN
THE BUNDESTAG WHO VOTED FOR THE PENSION AGREEMENT WITH
POLAND ON FEBRUARY 19.

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2. IN AN INTERVIEW WITH WELT AM SONNTAG ON FEBRUARY 22,

ALBRECHT'S DELPHIC RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS ABOUT THE LOWER SAXONY POSITION IN THE BUDES RAT VOTE ON MARCH 12 REVEALED THE DELEMNA FACING HIM. ASKED WHETHER IT WAS CORRECT TO INTERPRET THE CHANCELLOR'S STATEMENT IN THE BUNDESTAG ON FEBRUARY 19 (BONN 2951) AS AN INDICATION THAT THE BONN COALITION GOVERNMENT IS TRYING TO MEET THE OPPOSITION HALF-WAY, ALBRECHT REPLIED THAT "I CANNOT JUDGE HOW ESRIOUS THIS EFFORT REALLY IS. I CAN ONLY STATE THAT THE GOVERNMENT MUST MAKE A GREAT EFFORT TO TAKE OUR RESERVATIONS INTO CONSIDERATION OR THE AGREEMENTS AS POSED WILL FAIL TO BE RATIFIED."

3. ON FEBRUARY 26 THE LANDTAG IN LOWER SAXONY IS SCHEDULED TO DEBATE THE GOVERNMENT PROGRAM DELIVERED TO THE LANDTAG BY MINISTER-PRESIDENT ALBRECHT ON THE PREVIOUS DAY. I HAVE BEEN INVITED TO ATTEND THIS DABATE AND HOPE, DURING THE COURSE OF IT, TO HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THE LAND POSITION IN THE BUDES RAT WITH WILFRIED HASSELMANN, THE MINISTER FOR BUDES RAT AFFAIRS IN LOWER SAXONY. BY THIS TIME THE ALBRECHT GOVERNMENT MAY HAVE RESOLVED ITS DILEMMA AND I SHALL REPORT WHATEVER I LEARN ON THIS MATTER FOLLOWING MY RETURN FROM HANNOVER. BORGAN UNQTE INGERSOLL

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